

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-11 DHA-02 SAM-01 AID-05 OMB-01 /085 W

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R 161730Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BERN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1992

INFO AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERN 0236

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, AO

SUBJ: CABINDA

1. OLIVIER KRAMER, A SWISS BUSINESSMAN, CALLED ON EMBOFF JAN. 15 TO DISCUSS CABINDA. KRAMER HAS HAD CONNECTIONS WITH CABINDAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT FOR MANY YEARS AND APPEARS TO ENJOY CONFIDENCE OF ITS LEADERS. HOWEVER, KRAMER IS NOT IN FLEC'S PAY AND APPEARS TO MAINTAIN INDEPENDENT STAND.

2. KRAMER CLAIMS THAT WHATEVER DIFFERENCES MAY HAVE EXISTED AMONG CABINDANS BEFORE, ENTIRE POPULATION IS NOW UNITED IN OPPOSITION TO MPLA OCCUPYING FORCES. MPLA SAID TO HAVE 1,100 MEN IN CABINDA WHO RULE WITH REIGN OF TERROR. KRAMER SAID MPLA SOLDIERS WERE LARGELY REMNANTS OF TSHOMBE KATANGAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT WHO GREATLY AFRAID OF FALLING INTO HANDS OF MOBUTU.

3. KRAMER SAID THAT FLEC HAS BEEN GETTING MOST IF ITS SUPPORT FROM MOBUTU, BUT THERE RECENTLY HAS BEEN SOME COOLING OF RELATIONS. FLEC LEADERS ARE SUSPICIOUS THAT MOBUTU
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SIMPLY WANTS TO GET HIS HANDS ON CABINDAN OIL TO PAY

FOR HIS EXTRAVAGANCES, INCLUDING RECENTLY PURCHASED HUGE VILLA NEAR LAUSANNE. KRAMER SAID THAT FLEC ALSO GETTING SMALL AMOUNTS OF FINANCIAL AID FROM GABONESE AND SENEGAL GOVERNMENTS. FRENCH GOVERNMENT IS ALSO PROVIDING SOME FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO CABINDAN CABINET MINISTERS" LIVING IN PARIS.

4. KRAMER INDICATED HE IS MAINTAINING CLOSE TOUCH WITH VARIOUS AFRICAN ELEMENTS. HE MENTIONED THAT HE HAD HEARD THROUGH PERSONAL SHORT-WAVE RADIO FROM ACQUAINTANCE IN AFRICA ON JAN. 14 THAT THE FIRST SOVIET LST HAD BEEN SEEN LANDING TROOPS IN CABINDA.

5. KRAMER SEEMED TO WANT LITTLE OR NOTHING FROM THE EMBASSY. HE GAVE PERSONAL VIEW THAT EXPENDITURE OF MONEY ON CABINDANS AT THIS TIME WOULD BE POINTLESS EXERCISE BECAUSE CABINDAN INDEPENDENCE CANNOT BE REGAINED BY MILITARY FORCE.

6. DURING COURSE OF MORE GENERAL DISCUSSION, KRAMER MENTIONED THAT SOUTH AFRICAN AIRLINES HAVE RECENTLY BEGUN TO LAND IN BRAZZAVILLE. HE CITED THIS AS EXAMPLE OF VENALITY AMONG AFRICAN POLITICIANS. THE SOUTH AFRICANS ALLEGEDLY ARE PAYING SUBSTANTIAL SUMS FOR LANDING RIGHTS.

7. FULL MEMCONS FOLLOW.
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